

and effect as those issued by the Chief of Naval Operations.

(b) Orders issued by the Vice Chief of Naval Operations in performing other duties have the same force and effect as those issued by the Chief of Naval Operations.

**§ 700.304 Authority and responsibility.**

(a) Internal to the administration of the Department of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, shall command the Operating Forces of the Navy. The Chief of Naval Operations shall also command the Naval Material Command, the Bureau of Naval Personnel, and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. In addition, he shall command such shore activities as may be assigned to him by the Secretary. He shall be responsible to the Secretary for the utilization of resources by, and the operating efficiency of, all commands and activities under his command.

(b) In addition, the Chief of Naval Operations has the following specific responsibilities:

(1) To organize, train, equip, prepare, and maintain the readiness of Navy forces, including those for assignment to unified or specified commands for the performance of military missions as directed by the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Naval forces, when assigned to a unified or specified command, are under the full operational command of the commander to whom they are assigned.

(2) To determine and direct the efforts necessary to fulfill current and future requirements of the Navy (less Fleet Marine Forces and other assigned Marine Corps forces) for manpower, material, weapons, facilities, and services, including the determination of quantities, military performance requirements, and times, places, and priorities of need.

(3) To exercise leadership in maintaining a high degree of competence among Navy officer and enlisted and civilian personnel in necessary fields of specialization, through education, training, and equal opportunities for personal advancement, and maintaining the morale and motivation of Navy

personnel and the prestige of a Navy career.

(4) To plan and provide health care for personnel of the naval service and their dependents.

(5) To direct the organization, administration, training, and support of the Naval Reserve.

(6) To inspect and investigate components of the Department of the Navy to determine and maintain efficiency, discipline, readiness, effectiveness, and economy, except in those areas where such responsibility rests with the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

(7) To determine the needs of naval forces and activities for research, development, test, and evaluation; to plan and provide for the conduct of development, test, and evaluation which are adequate and responsive to long-range objectives, immediate requirements, and fiscal limitations; and to provide assistance to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research and Development) in the direction, review, and appraisal of the overall Navy RDT&E Program to insure fulfillment of stated requirements.

(8) To formulate Navy strategic plans and policies and participate in the formulation of joint and combined strategic plans and policies and related command relationships.

(9) To budget for commands, bureaus, and offices assigned to the command of the Chief of Naval Operations, and other activities and programs as assigned, except as may be otherwise directed by the Secretary of the Navy.

(c) The Chief of Naval Operations, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, shall (except for those areas wherein such responsibility rests with the Commandant of the Marine Corps) exercise overall authority throughout the Department of the Navy in matters related to the effectiveness of the support of the Operating Forces of the Navy, the coordination and direction of assigned Navy-wide programs and functions including those assigned by higher authority, the coordination of activities of the Department of the Navy in matters concerning effectiveness, efficiency, and economy, and matters essential to naval military administration, such as security, intelligence, discipline, communications, and matters